

STOCKS AND BONDS

Practically Last Day of the Year
a Busy One.

MONEY MARKET WAS EASIER

Crisis Believed to Have Been Passed
and Prices Held to Closing, Which
Was About at Top Prices of the
Day.

(By Associated Press.)

NEW YORK, Dec. 29.—For practical purposes today was the last day of the year on the stock exchange. As Monday is the New Year's holiday, the settlement for today's transactions in the stock market will be deferred in effect until the turn of the year. This fact was made the basis for the speculative furor which prevailed the stock market today from start to finish and carried dealing to the two million share level. There was less severity in the money stringency today than on the two previous days.

Compared with yesterday the money market was regarded as easy and today's rates were cheerfully and even eagerly paid. The possibility of a weak bank return received little attention, as it was assumed that with the passing of the last actual business day in the year in the stock market, the crisis in money might be assumed to be fairly passed. It was this assumption that animated the speculation throughout and held prices up to the closing, which was firm and at about the top. The strength of the market was so general as to require no speculations. The sensational rise in Anaconda was a repetition of the recent movement in that stock.

Bonds were firm. Total sales, par value, \$3,250,000. United States 2's advanced 1-8 and the 3's and old 4's 1-4 per cent. on call.

Total sales of stocks today, 1,550,000 shares.

Chicago Grain Market.

CHICAGO, Dec. 29.—Higher prices for wheat at Liverpool were reflected today in a strong market here. The final quotations on May were up 5-8 to 3-4 cent. The corn market was very erratic, the price of old December fluctuating over a range of 6 cents. The close was, however, quite steady at a gain of 1-4 cent over the final quotation of yesterday. The May option was up 1-4 cent. Oats showed a gain of 1-4 to 3-8 cent and provisions were 7-12 to 17-12 cents higher.

The leading futures ranged as follows:

Articles.	Opening.	Closing.
Wheat No. 2—		
May	87 1/8	87 5/8@3/8
July	83 3/8@1/2	83 7/8@84
Corn No. 2—		
Dec., old	50	50
Dec., new	46 1/2	46 1/4
May	44 1/4	44 3/8@1/2
July	44 3/4	44 3/8
Oats No. 2—		
Dec.	31 1/2	31 1/2
May	32 1/4	32 1/2

OFFICIAL RANGE OF STOCKS.

BY H. E. BOYKIN,

Stocks, Bonds, Cotton, Grain, Etc., Room 2, Braxton Building.

	Opening.	High.	Low.	Close.
American Smelters	108 1/4	170	167	169 1/4
C. F. I.	56 1/4	57 1/2	56 1/8	57
People's Gas	100 3/4	101	100 1/2	101
Pressed Steel Car	55	56	55	56
T. C. I.	107 1/8	110	107 1/8	108 3/8
O. & W.	51 5/8	52 3/8	51 3/8	54 1/4
U. S. Steel	41 1/2	42 1/2	40 3/4	42 1/2
U. S. Steel pfd	105 7/8	106 5/8	105 7/8	106 3/8
Virginia-Carolina Chemical	57 1/8	58 5/8	57 3/4	57
Western Union	92 3/4	93 1/4	92	93 1/4
American Locomotive	70 1/2	73	70	72 7/8
Atchafalpa	58 1/2	60 1/4	58 1/8	59
American Car & Foundry	40 1/4	41 1/4	40 1/8	41
Canadian Pacific	171	176	174	175
Illinois Central	175	175 1/2	175	175 1/2
Louisville & Nashville	151 1/4	153	151 1/4	152 1/2
St. Paul	180 1/4	181 3/4	180	181 3/4
Mexican Central	25 5/8	25 3/4	25	25 1/2
M. K. T.	37 1/4	37 1/2	37	37 1/8
M. K. T. pfd	69 3/4	71	69 1/2	71
Missouri Pacific	108 1/8	109	108	109 1/2
Great Western	21	21 3/8	21	21
Rock Island	24	24 1/4	23 7/8	24
Rock Island pfd	62	62 1/2	62 1/2	62 1/4
Southern Pacific	66 1/2	66 7/8	66 1/4	66 3/4
Southern Railway	35 1/2	36	35 3/8	36
Texas Pacific	33 3/8	33 1/2	33 1/8	33 1/2
Union Pacific	149 1/4	151 1/4	149 1/8	151 1/4
B. R. T.	89	89 1/4	88 3/4	89
Metropolitan	126	126 3/8	125 1/4	125 1/4
Pacific Mail	48	48 3/8	48	48 3/8
American Sugar	152 1/2	153 1/2	152 1/2	153
B. & O.	113	113 1/2	112 7/8	113 3/8
C. & O.	54 1/2	57	54 1/2	56 7/8
Erie	47 7/8	49 1/2	47 5/8	49 1/4
Erie 1st pfd	50	51	50	51
New York Central	153	154	152 7/8	153 1/4
Norfolk & Western	81	85 1/4	81	84 7/8
Pennsylvania	143 7/8	144 1/2	143 3/4	144 1/4
Reading	137 1/2	138 1/4	137 1/4	138 1/4
Wabash	20 1/2	20 1/2	20 1/4	20 1/4
Wabash pfd	41	41 1/2	40 5/8	40 5/8
Gloss-Sheffield Steel	90 1/2	90 1/2	89 1/4	90
Lead	86	86 1/2	85	85
New York Cotton.				
January	11.38	11.39	11.29	11.30
March	11.70	11.71	11.61	11.62
May	11.86	11.86	11.77	11.78
December	11.36	11.36	11.32	11.36

W. A. POST, President.
J. R. SWINERTON, Vice-President.

THE FIRST NATIONAL BANK

U. S. GOVERNMENT DEPOSITORY, CITY DEPOSITORY, CITIZENS' DEPOSITORY.

Capital	\$100,000.00
Surplus and Profits	100,000.00
Other Resources Make Total Over	\$1,000,000.00

J. A. WILLETT, Cashier.
ARTHUR LEE, Asst. Cashier

WEEKLY TRADE REVIEW

Unseasonably Mild Weather Accentuates Usual Dullness.

GRATIFYING CHRISTMAS TRADE

Strong Tone Established and Confidence Regarding the Future Is More Pronounced—Failures For Week 221, Against 252 Last Year

(By Associated Press.)

NEW YORK, Dec. 29.—R. G. Dun and Company's weekly review of trade tomorrow will say:

"Unseasonably mild weather accentuated the customary holiday week dullness in distribution of staple merchandise, but gratifying results of Christmas trade established a strong tone, and confidence regarding the future is more pronounced.

"Outdoor work is facilitated by the high temperature and lack of snow making the year's total of building operations even greater than the most sanguine expectations. Trade in furs and heavy clothing is unfavorably affected by the open winter, but the net result is most satisfactory.

Outputs are large.

"Despite inventories and repairs, output of manufacturing plants has continued large and preparations for spring shipments indicate that advance orders were heavy. New business at first hands is seasonably quiet, but machinery will be full occupied well into the New Year before additional orders are required.

"Statements of railway earnings continue satisfactory, figures thus far available for December showing an average gain of 6.9 per cent. over 1904.

"Failures this week numbered 221, against 252 last year."

THE CITY MAN.

His Lot in Life Compared With That of the Farmer.

According to the National Magazine, "Iron in the cities work twice as hard as the farmers, and they get few or no holidays. Thousands and thousands of professional men, clerks and men in small business enterprises delve and toil their entire lives away and at the end are cut out to the cemeteries without having had any more leisure or enjoyment in their lives than a horse on a treadmill. The rest they toll along in is as narrow as a cune knife." This is not the farmer's view of the city man, whom he sees only during vacation, when the city man is taking a brief and much needed rest. The farmer sees him sporting his "glad rags" and mistakenly imagines him to be all the year round only an idle butterfly, consuming the produce of the horny banded son of toil. The truth, it is held, is that the city man, as a rule, is the harder worker and gets much less enjoyment out of life. He longs for the rural scenes and occupations of the farmer; his dearest hope is to get back to the country to spend his last years. A few of the city folks make a big lot of money and get their follies and amusements in the newspapers, but the great majority of city toilers live a very monotonous and stupid as well as a very laborious and poverty stricken life. The farmer, it is concluded, has "the real thing," while the city man has only barren aspirations and disappointments. The contented farmer is not only the wisest but the happiest of mankind.—Baltimore Sun.

SLAVERY IN CHINA.

Savage Cruelty Meted Out For the Most Venial Offenses.

Says an editorial in the Peking Times: "The position of the slave girl in a Chinese home is a very hard one as a rule. These slaves are generally the property of the wife, and no one interferes with the mistress in her treatment of the poor little things, who will as often as not be subjected to the most savage cruelty for most venial offenses. A few weeks ago we recall a case of great hardship being brought into the mixed court, Shanghai, in which a small slave girl had been gagged with a piece of iron and severely beaten because, when half starved, she helped herself to some scraps of food. "Our attention has now been called to piercing cries which emanate from a house near Canton road and are said to proceed from a little slave girl who for some reason is beaten almost daily with a thick knotted rope, but for what reason is unknown. "Our informant thinks a word in public, showing that the incident has been noticed, may suffice to check the cruelty without lodging a formal complaint with the municipal police, which might make matters worse for the poor little sufferer in the long run."

A Golden Opportunity.

Sho-I bought you a shaving set today—razor, soap, and everything—such a bargain! He—But, my dear, I don't shave myself. She—Well, can't you learn?—New York Press.

Fooled Her.

"Promise me, Jack, that you will not go to the dogs just because I have refused you." "Oh, pshaw, of course not." "You mean thing!"—Life.

The Difference Between Two Poets.

Claudius on being asked what was the difference between him and Klopstock replied: "Klopstock says, 'Thou who art my inferior and yet my equal, approach hither, and, stooping to the ground, relieve me of the burden of these dust begrimed nether integuments,' whereas I simply say, 'Johann, come and pull off my boots!'"

Nothing in It.

Towne—I never saw a man who was so fond of entertaining as Henpeck is. It's really remarkable. Browne—Oh, that's not so strange. You see, his wife is quite pleasant to him when there's company in the house.—Philadelphia Press.

Press Advertising Cures Dull Trade

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H. E. BOYKIN

Room 2, Braxton Building.

2711 Washington Ave.

Bonds, Stocks, Cotton, Grain and Provisions Bought and Sold Outright or Carried on Margin. Private Wires to New York and Chicago. Correspondents M. J. Sage & Co., New York.

Pennyroyal Pills

CHICHESTER'S ENGLISH PENNYROYAL PILLS

For Rheumatism, Gout, Gravel, etc.

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TRANSPORTATION GUIDE.

SEABOARD AIR LINE RAILWAY.

SHORT LINE TO PRINCIPAL CITIES OF THE SOUTH AND SOUTHWEST, FLORIDA, CUBA, TEXAS, CALIFORNIA AND MEXICO, REACHING THE CAPITALS OF SIX STATES.

Schedule in Effect July 26, 1905.

Route. No. 41. No. 33.

Norfolk

Portsmouth

Suffolk

Lewiston N. C.

Weldon

Henderson

Raleigh

Southern Pine

Hamlet

Wilmington

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Hamlet

Columbia

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Savannah

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Athens

Atlanta

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Macon

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New Orleans

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Suffolk & Carolina R. R. train en route from Elizabeth City, N. C., and intermediate points arrive Portsmouth 10:15 a. m., daily; returning leaves Portsmouth, 4:55 p. m., except Sunday, Sunday, 7:00 p. m.

Connections at Jacksonville and Tampa for all Florida East Coast Points, Cuba and Porto Rico.

Only line out of Norfolk operating through sleeper to Charlotte, N. C.

No. 32 arrives at Portsmouth daily at 8:00 a. m.